

REMARKS

Claims 2, 7, 9, 14, 16 and 21 are pending in this application. Claims 7, 14 and 21 are allowed. Claims 2, 9 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Thompson in view of Miller. Claims 2, 9 and 16 are currently amended. Support for the claim amendments is in the specification at page 6, paragraph “a,” page 10, and page 11, paragraph “1.b.” Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 9 and 16 as currently amended distinguish the cited combination because a signal from a nearby access point is detected from among other signals, and an indication of the signal strength of that access point is provided in a manner perceptible by a human being. Thompson teaches a wireless network in which the actual locations of APs are known. As stated in para. 0030, “the APs are arranged at known geographic locations and may provide geographic location information regarding geographic location of the AP or the mobile user.” Wireless networks in which the geographic locations of APs must be known with certainty can be problematic. For example, when deploying an additional AP it may be necessary to study a map of deployed APs and then place the additional AP at a precise geographic location determined from studying to the map. However, studying the map is time consuming, as is maintaining an accurate map. The presently claimed invention mitigates these problems by providing a human-perceptible indication of signal strength of a signals from a nearby AP. Consequently, an installer can determine where to locate a new AP while on location, without reference to a map, based on the human-perceptible indication. It should also be noted that unlike Miller, the presently claimed invention distinguishes between signals.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date

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